

legislative victory was in key provisions of the Anti-Money Laundering Act of 2020, which assisted to improve financial access for charities.

While her steadfast work will be missed, Kay's legacy at C and SN and its network of affiliates will have an impact on global civil liberties and human rights issues going forward. I offer her my heartfelt congratulations to her on her retirement, and wish her—and C and SN, which she leaves in good hands—all the best going forward.●

#### TRIBUTE TO CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER 5 DAVID HAMMON

● Ms. DUCKWORTH. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to the remarkable career of CW5 David Hammon, a 42-year servicemember of the Illinois Army National Guard who will retire on April 30, 2022. Chief Hammon was the fifth command chief warrant officer of the State of Illinois and only the third full-time soldier to hold the position.

Chief Hammon enlisted in the Army as an aircraft mechanic in 1980. He served with the 219th Transportation Company, 40th Aviation Battalion (Attack Helicopter), 1144th Transportation Battalion, and 1st Battalion, 106th Aviation Regiment. In 1996, he became an aviation warrant officer with the 106th. He served in various units and positions, to include aviation intermediate maintenance, light medium transportation, lift, and aviation unit maintenance. His latest assignment was as a maintenance test pilot for Company D, 1st Battalion, 106th Aviation Regiment in Decatur, flying the UH-60 Blackhawk. Chief Hammon deployed twice in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom/New Dawn. In 2004 to 2005, he deployed with Headquarters, 1st Battalion, 106th Aviation Regiment, and in 2009 to 2010, he deployed with Company A, 1st Battalion, 106th Aviation Regiment. His overseas deployment training missions include Germany, El Salvador, Panama, Iceland, and Hawaii.

Chief Hammon's military awards and decorations include Meritorious Service Medal, Air Medal (Numeral 2), Army Commendation Medal (3 oakleaf clusters), National Defense Service Medal (1 Bronze Star), Iraq Campaign Medal (3 Bronze Service Stars), Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Humanitarian Service Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal (M 2 Device), Overseas Service Ribbon (Numeral 2), Army Reserve Component Overseas Training Ribbon (Numeral 7), Illinois State Active Duty (Numeral 2), Army Combat Action Badge, Master Army Aviator Badge, Army Excellence in Competition Badge Bronze Rifle, Driver and Mechanic Badge.

Chief Hammon's leadership, determination, and commitment have no doubt changed lives and helped to make our country safer. As his Army career ends, may he continue to be

"Always Ready, Always There!" and forever take pride in knowing that his exemplary efforts and unwavering professionalism contributed greatly to the success of the Army and the National Guard mission.●

#### REMEMBERING COLONEL GAIL S. HALVORSEN

● Mr. LEE. Mr. President, Col. Gail S. Halvorsen is known as the "Candy Bomber" because in 1948, Colonel Halvorsen brought not only much needed supplies to the besieged residents of Berlin, but he brought joy in the form of candy bars and bubble gum with miniature parachutes dropped from his airplane. This story of hope, light, and service is but a highlight in a life dedicated to serving others.

While Colonel Halvorsen passed away earlier this year at the notable age of 101 years, the people of Utah hold him and his story close to our hearts. Recently, my staff and I were honored to join the Gail S. Halvorsen Foundation and other groups in Utah to help facilitate the donation of six tons of school and baby supplies along with 9,000 letters from Utah schoolchildren to refugees fleeing Ukraine. While logistical challenges are characteristic of international donations of this type, the dedication of the Halvorsen Foundation and all involved ensured these vital supplies made it safely to those within a critical timeline.

In a time of violence and evil, when our friends are under attack, Gail Halvorsen is again leading the way for American generosity, kindness, and compassion. The parallels between these two tragic situations are moving. The men and women of America's military volunteered in aiding in delivering supplies to those in need. The Halvorsen family and foundation were involved intimately in the effort. Colonel Halvorsen's daughter brought along chocolate bars to induct the Navy pilots as some of the next generation of "candy bombers." These supplies landed at Tempelhof airbase where the legend began. Now, as then, the people of the United States are showing characteristic kindness. It is particularly moving to me that alongside the supplies and necessities of life, this shipment included touching letters from the schoolchildren of Utah. Gail Halvorsen is remembered not for his efficiency or logistics, but his kindness and gift for human connection.

These diapers, packages of formula, and school supplies will be used by the most vulnerable of the Ukrainian refugees. This gesture of kindness will lift up weary hands and encourage struggling hearts of the mothers and fathers of these children. Importantly, at this moment of difficulty and despair, the Gail Halvorsen Foundation and the people of Utah are also remembering the people behind the tragedy and are remembering kindness, humanity, and an individual touch in the effort to relieve suffering.

The people of Utah are not unfamiliar with stories of displacement. Utah was settled by religious refugees seeking freedom from persecution and violence. Indeed, the history of the United States is broadly marked by groups fleeing violence, persecution, or turmoil in their homelands. The American empathy for refugees and desire to help those in desperate need is alive and well in the hearts and minds of Utahns.

Col. Gail S. Halvorsen lived a life dedicated to service. His signature kindness shines brightly in telling his signature story. His glowing smile matched his glowing personality. In Utah, we miss the "Candy Bomber" and his personal touch. Nevertheless, his mission and influence continues.

The dedicated work of the Gail S. Halvorsen Foundation is changing lives today. Be it caring for refugees, inspiring kindness, or building future generations of STEM professionals, the Gail S. Halvorsen Foundation continues the legacy of one of Utah's greatest citizens. Col. Gail S. Halvorsen's story, his legacy, and his influence carry on bringing smiles and relief all along the way.●

#### TRIBUTE TO DAVID MICHAEL THOMAS

● Mr. PAUL. Mr. President, while it is not possible to specifically recognize every Vietnam veteran who honorably served our Nation, each time we celebrate one, we also focus our attention on thousands of others, many of whom lost their lives decades ago.

Today, I want to honor David Michael Thomas, who followed in the footsteps of his own father, Glenn Elmore Thomas, a personal bodyguard for Dwight D. Eisenhower, and joined the U.S. Army in 1970. Specialist Thomas was stationed outside the Tan Son Nhut Air Field with the 519th Military Intelligence Battalion, 525th Military Intelligence Group for 2 years. He received the National Defense Service Medal, the Vietnam Service Medal with 2 Stars, Vietnam Campaign Medal with 60 Device, Meritorious Unit Citation, and the Army Commendation Medal.

Upon his return from Vietnam, he graduated from Western Kentucky University in my hometown of Bowling Green and, most notably, met his future wife, Julia Kirk at the Baptist Student Union. Together, they embarked on his 40 years of pastoral ministry in seven different States, finally retiring back in our community. He and Julia are blessed with four children and a host of grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

His legacy of serving others, first in the Armed Services and then in pastoral ministry, continues in a unique way with which I have a personal connection. His daughter, Amy Bee, is a constituent service representative in my office in Bowling Green. She is one of the many talented staff members